

NOACA PROJECT MAINTENANCE MONITORING PROGRAM

Transportation Subcommittee

September 20, 2019



ACTION REQUESTED

No action is being requested. This item is being presented for information and discussion.

PREVIOUS ACTION

Staff proposed the creation of a project maintenance monitoring program to the Policy Committee at its July 2018 meeting.



BACKGROUND

NOACA plans for and administers Federal transportation funding through the:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program;
- Transportation Alternatives (TAP) program; and
- Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program



BACKGROUND

- In accordance with federal and state provisions (notably Title 23 United States Code, Section 116), once a project is completed, the sponsoring agency is required to adequately maintain the project to an acceptable standard.
- Provision incorporated into ODOT federal project agreements.



BACKGROUND

- As program manager of STBG, TAP and CMAQ funds, the NOACA Board of Directors has expressed concerns regarding maintenance of the projects to which it has committed funds.
- The Board wants to ensure that the approved project's intended public benefit is received and being maintained for the duration of the project's determined useful life.
- As such, the Policy Committee adopted this item as a 2020 focus area for development to strengthen the Board's directive.



BACKGROUND

- As defined by federal requirements:
 - The term “maintenance” means the preservation of the entire facility within the original termini and scope of the project.
 - The term “adequate maintenance” means maintenance necessary for the safe and efficient utilization of the completed project as designed.



BACKGROUND

At the July 2018 Policy Committee meeting, staff proposed the creation of a Project Maintenance Monitoring Program to demonstrate:

- Public benefit is received for determined useful life;
 - Consistent with Board of Directors approved scope and intent;
- Adequate maintenance is being performed; and
- Issues, as a result of non-maintenance, are properly addressed



BACKGROUND

To guide and advance implementation of the program, specific policies will need to be adopted by the agency.

- The policy would address components of the proposed program including:
 - Monitoring method and frequency;
 - Scope of maintenance performance reviews;
 - Recommendations and measures to address and correct identified deficiencies; and
 - Assurance for compliance
 - Non-compliance



POTENTIAL POLICY ELEMENT

Monitoring Method and Frequency

- NOACA will annually identify projects from an appropriate priority list for inspection.
 - NOACA will select projects which are three to five years post completion for maintenance inspection.
 - Follow-up reviews can occur at pre-determined intervals during the useful life of the project



POTENTIAL POLICY ELEMENT

Scope of Maintenance Performance Reviews

- Field visits will be conducted on selected projects.
 - NOACA will partner with the sponsor in performance of the review.
- Provide a summary of findings and recommendations to the sponsor for formal review and response.



POTENTIAL POLICY ELEMENT

Recommendations and Measures to Address and Correct Identified Deficiencies

- Establish:
 - appropriate measures to address and correct the identified deficiencies; and
 - acceptable timeframe by which the project sponsor will perform them
- After an agreed upon deadline NOACA will verify that the deficiencies have been satisfactorily addressed within the agreed to timeframe.



POTENTIAL POLICY ELEMENT

Assurance for Compliance

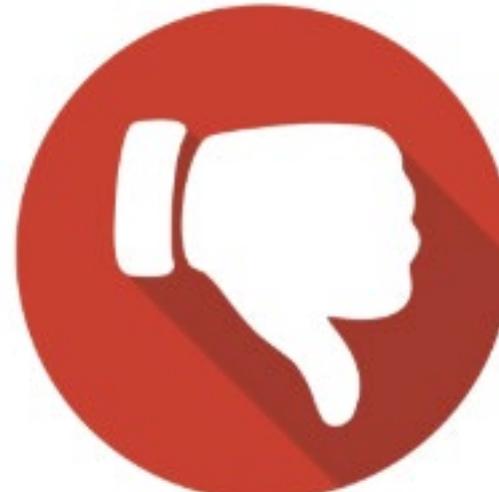
- If deficiencies are addressed, NOACA will notify the project sponsor of acceptance.
 - NOACA will document sponsor's best practices and methods to inform its processes and improve its practices.



POTENTIAL POLICY ELEMENT

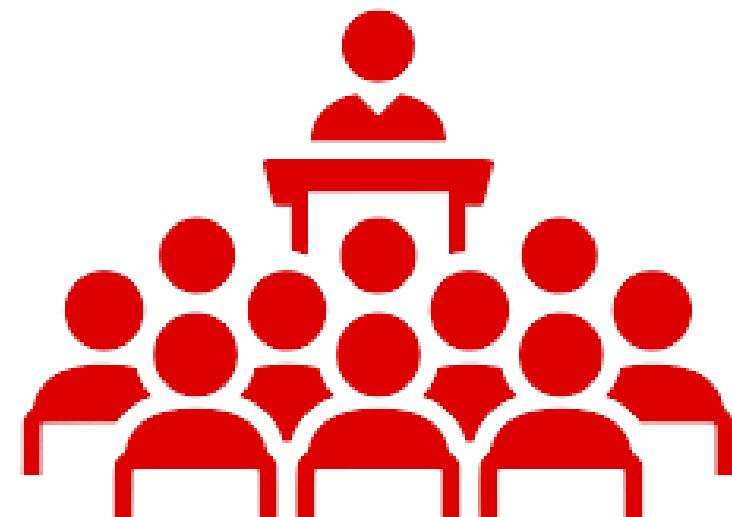
Non-Compliance

- If deficiencies are not satisfactorily addressed within the agreed to timeframe NOACA, in accordance with federal requirements, may:
 - Recommend the NOACA Board to withhold approval of future NOACA funding to the sponsor until the deficiency is satisfactorily addressed.
 - Refer non-compliance matter to ODOT, as the primary oversight agency, which may result in withholding approval of projects of all types until 'such project shall have been put in proper condition of maintenance.'



NEXT STEPS

Staff will use the input received from the Subcommittee to develop a draft policy document that will be brought at a future meeting for continued input.





NOACA will **STRENGTHEN** regional cohesion, **PRESERVE** existing infrastructure, and **BUILD** a sustainable multimodal transportation system to **SUPPORT** economic development and **ENHANCE** quality of life in Northeast Ohio.

